

THE RIO NEWS.

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VOL. IX.

RIO DE JANEIRO, NOVEMBER 5TH, 1882

NUMBER 31

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

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DOM PEDRO II.—Through Express: Upward, leaves Rio at 5 a.m., arriving at Barra Junction at 7:45 a.m. Entre Rio (central line) 10:11 a.m., Ilhabela 3:45 p.m., Porto Novo (branch line) 10:11 a.m., Cachoeira (St. Paulo branch) 11:45 a.m., São Paulo (per S. P. & R. R.) 6 p.m. Downward, leaves São Paulo 6 a.m., Barbacena 8:30 a.m., Porto Novo 12:13 p.m., arriving at Barra 4:11 and Rio 7:12 p.m. Connects with Valenciana line at Desengano; Rio das Flores line at Commercio; União Mineira line at Seraria; Oeste de Minas (St. João d'El-Rey) line at Belo Horizonte; Leopoldina line at Porto Novo; Reronde e Aras line at Surubay; and S. Paulo and Rio de Janeiro line at Cachoeira.
Limited Express: Upward, leaves Rio 7:15 a.m., arriving at Barra 10:25 a.m., Rio Novo (central line) 7:15 a.m., Cachoeira (St. Paulo branch) 5:48 p.m. Downward, leaves Cachoeira 6:48 a.m., Rio Novo 5:50 a.m., arriving at Barra 1:42 and 1:57 p.m., Rio 5:45 p.m. Stops at all stations. Connects with Santa Cruz branch at Sapopemba, and Macacos branch at Itaipava.
Mixed Trains: Leave Rio at 9:10 a.m., 3:15 and 4:10 p.m.; arrive, from Belém 7:15 a.m., from Barra 8:45 a.m., from Entre-Rios leaving 6:57 a.m. at 3:08 p.m.
Suburban Trains.—Passenger trains leave at 5:00, 6:30, 7:40, 8:40 and 10:30 a.m., and 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 8:30 and 10:00 p.m., all stopping at Cavandade except the 10 p.m. train, which runs to Sapopemba. Remaining, the trains leave Sapopemba at 5:30 and Cascadura at 3:50, 6:10, 7:40, 8:40, 10 and 11:35 a.m., and 1:10, 3:20, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 8:30 and 9:40 p.m.
CANTAGALLO R.—Leaves Niterói for Santa Anna 7:30 a.m., arriving at Nova Friburgo 1:05 Cordeiro 1 hour per trainway from Cantagallo 4:25 and Macaco 5:45 p.m. Return train leaves Macaco 6:30, Cordeiro 7:50 and Nova Friburgo 11:10 a.m., arriving at Niterói 4:35 p.m. A ferry boat runs between Rio and Santa Anna, connecting with trains.
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THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

on the eve of departure of the American packet
the French packet of the 15th., and Royal
Mail packet of the 24th. of the month.

A. J. LAMOREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs
a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the com-
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quotations and sales, a table of freight and charters, and a
other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian
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SPECIAL NOTICE.—The remaining numbers for the
present year will be sent gratis to all new subscribers for
1883.

RIO DE JANEIRO, NOVEMBER 5TH, 1882.

THE second session of the eighteenth General Assembly was formally closed on the 28th ultimo, after a continuous sitting of nearly ten months. Technically this sitting comprised parts of two sessions but as the closing of the first session and the opening of the second took place on the same day, the sitting may be described as continuous. In that time the two chambers have succeeded in passing the regular budgets of appropriations and receipts, and two important measures—one relating to the grant of patents or privileges, the other to the legal constitution and status of joint-stock companies. The question of the right of provinces to levy additional import duties was precipitated on this legislature by the determined protests of the merchants of Pernambuco, and was finally decided against the practice. In conformity with a general demand from the planters, a reduction of 2 per cent. in the export duties on coffee, sugar, cotton, and maté, was adopted. To meet the loss of revenue arising from this reduction and the loss to the provinces from the abolition of provincial import duties, the government introduced a project for the general imposition of an addition of 10 per cent. on the schedule tariff, the proceeds to be divided between the government and the provinces. This measure was defeated. The government then brought in the same increase again, with additional warehouse charges, in the interests of the general government alone. It was claimed that the treasury could not possibly dispense with the revenue. The measure was then passed by a small majority. In closing the General Assembly on the 28th the Emperor made the customary address from the throne, announcing the existence of unbroken peaceful relations with foreign powers, the promulgation of the new commercial treaty with China, the consular convention concluded with Germany, the continuation of hostilities on the West Coast, unbroken tranquility in all parts of the empire, the appearance of small-pox in several provinces and the purpose of the government to check it. He thanked parliament for voting the necessary funds for carrying on government, and advised a consideration of the provincial question at the next session. The measures adopted relating to patents, joint-stock companies, and the registration of voters, meet his cordial approval, as also the special appropriations for the navy, and the aids extended to the construction of railways

and other improvements contributing to the grandeur and prosperity of empire. The session was then declared closed.

THE new additional tax of 10 per cent. on imports, together with the increase in warehouse charges and the reduction of 2 per cent. in the export duties on coffee, sugar, cotton and maté, are to go into execution on the 9th instant. On and after that date the additional tax on the schedule rates will be 60 instead of 50 per cent. The new rates for the customs warehouses will be $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the first month, which will be collected on all entries whether they remain in the custom house or not. For two months the tax will be 1 per cent. per month; for three months $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per month; and for periods exceeding three months 2 per cent. per month, or 24 per cent. per annum—the tax being levied upon the duties imposed upon the goods. The effect of these laws can be no other than the restriction of importation. The mercantile classes will be obliged to import on shorter time and to carry lighter stocks, for the simple reason that the increased duties and warehouse taxes will increase the cost of goods to just that extent, with a consequent increase in the amount of capital tied-up in stock. Of course these increased taxes will be met by either an increase in the prices on goods, or an equivalent decrease in the quality of the goods. In either case the consumer will pay the tax, and suffer the hardships. The loss to the mercantile classes will spring from the restrictions upon business and decreased consumption. These are simply the elementary factors in this problem of taxation, but they seem to be as yet but little understood in parliament and in the government. They have yet to learn the mysterious workings of a tax upon middlemen. In the matter of the reduction in the export taxes on coffee, sugar, cotton and maté, the step is one in the right direction, and should be hailed with pleasure. After the 9th the general export tax on coffee will be 7 instead of 9 per cent., the provincial tax of 4 per cent. remaining unchanged.

THE final outcome of the proposal of an Italian steamship agency of this city to bring out ten thousand Italian families for the province of São Paulo is an adverse report from two provincial officials and its consequent rejection by the president of that province. The conditions of the proposal, which have been published, were to the effect that the petitioners would engage to introduce into the province 10,000 families—not individuals—of agricultural laborers from the north of Italy under definite contracts with the planters themselves. For every colonist so introduced the province should pay the petitioners £4 for each person from 14 to 45 years of age, and £2 for each minor from 4 to 13 years. One of the reports against this proposal was based—and justly so—upon its indefinite character. No mention is made of the character of the proposed contracts with the planters, nor of the fares to be charged for the transportation of the colonists. The two conditions specified were the number of families to be introduced, and the *per capita* bounty to be paid by the province, leaving the other conditions to whatever private terms the parties interested could agree upon. The other adverse report was based upon the conflict between its conditions and those of the law of 1881, which fixed the maximum bounty at 40\$—less than the £4 proposed—and established different proportional rates for minors. Besides that, the proposal calls for the payment of over 2,000,000\$ in bounties by the province—on the basis of five individuals to the family—which is an obligation the province is in no position to

assume. Then, too, the law of 1881 establishes special favors for voluntary immigration, which favors would be neutralized by the terms of this proposed contract. In conformity with these opinions the president of the province rejects the proposal. This action is one which merits the highest praise. As much as the province of São Paulo needs free laborers, she can not afford to continue this mistaken policy of introducing colonists under contracts and special privileges. The policy has always been a bottomless quagmire into which Brazil has thrown both her money and her honor. While the benefits of the system have been infinitesimal, the evils have been immeasurable. São Paulo has not been a stranger to these evils in the past, and she can not afford to repeat the experience.

At a meeting of the Ypiranga lottery commission in São Paulo on the 21st ultimo, a decision was finally attained upon that interminable question as to how the money shall be spent. It will be remembered that the first idea was to erect an elaborate monument surmounted with a shaft of marble, and comprising various allegorical figures and historical bas-reliefs. Then came a change in the scheme, and an imposing university was proposed which was to overshadow everything of the kind in Brazil. Then came a compromise scheme, which reduced somewhat the proportions of both of its predecessors, and proposed a university, a public garden, a plain commemorative marble shaft, and a grand avenue all the way into São Paulo. This avenue, was to be an institution of itself. It was to be broad and beautifully paved with granite parallelopipedons. Rows of shade trees were to line its roadways and sidewalks. Its gutters were to be gurgling streams, and its pavements were to ring with the rattle of luxurious carriages. And every paving stone was to represent the patriotic investment of a poor working man, who could henceforth look with honest pride upon the facilities for enjoyment which he had charitably bestowed upon neighbor Dives. And then, after all this, came chaos. Everyone had a scheme, and no two were able to agree. To the snug little 500,000\$ laid away in the treasury as the fruits of the first drawing, another equal sum has now been added—and this fund of 1,000,000\$ has finally forced the commission to a decision. After mature consideration the commission finally concluded on the 21st ult. to commemorate the glorious declaration of independence on the plain of Ypiranga, September 7th, 1822, by erecting upon that hallowed spot a primary school. *Parturient montes, nascitur ridiculus mus.* A happier idea perhaps could never have been discovered. The first great event in the history of independent Brazil, the birth of national freedom, the tragic declaration of Pedro I, "*Independência ou morte!*"—all these will henceforth live in the hearts and under the very eyes of a hundred or more of little boarding-school boys. Surely enough there will be no imposing university, no towering shaft of marble, no half draped figures of Liberty, and Commerce, and Industry, no garden walks midst flowers and splashing fountains—not even an avenue on which the servants of emporio statesmen can trundle their master's hoops. But in their place will spring up a monument such as the world has never yet known—a primary school endowed with 1,500,000\$, gathered in from three great lotteries. There will be a costly edifice of course, and above its portal will be placed some fitting dedicatory inscription in which the people will bestow their treasured little earnings upon the youth of the land. Happy the land which can thus transform a great national vice into so beneficent a purpose!

From late advices from the province of Minas Geraes it would seem that steps have already been taken to carry out the legislative authorization for the construction of a branch of the Dom Pedro II line to the capital city of Ouro Preto. For this purpose the government has authorized an expenditure up to 20,000,000\$. It is idle, perhaps, to discuss this question, for the simple reason that the project was long since decided upon. Furthermore, the considerations leading to this result are not within the confines of discussion. As a mere record, however, it is sufficient to say that the project adopted is radically wrong. In the first place an expenditure of twenty thousand contos by the government on a railway at this time is a fatally mistaken policy. If it is impossible for the government to meet its ordinary expenditures without resorting to increased taxation, then certainly it is full time for decreased expenditure. An increase of this amount in the expenditure should never be incurred. In the second place, the building of such a road as projected is unnecessary and uncalled for. The freight and passenger traffic of Ouro Preto is a mere bagatelle, so insignificant that an ordinary tramway would meet every requirement. Instead it is proposed to build an expensive broad-gauge road, for which there is and can never be the slightest necessity. The neighborhood of Ouro Preto will never be an important agricultural region, and is not likely therefore to require anything more than the cheapest facilities for transportation. At present Ouro Preto is nothing more than the capital of the province, and its official character gives it its chief claim upon the outside world. It has comparatively nothing to export, its imports are hardly enough for a tramway, and its passenger traffic is but little more than that made necessary by the exigencies of public business. For so small and unimportant a place an expensive railway is about as necessary as a ship canal. Then, too, if we mistake not, these interior towns of Minas Geraes are practically decaying. There is actually less life and enterprise now than in colonial days. In the face of such decay a railway is worse than useless; it is nothing less than a waste of money. And then, in the third place, there have already been projects proposed for the construction of a cheaper line of railway to this place. If private capitalists, under an interest guarantee, are willing to build a narrow-gauge road, why not let them do it? The expenditure both for construction and operation will be correspondingly reduced. Every necessity of Ouro Preto will be fully served, and the public treasury will be delivered from a burden which it can ill afford to undertake. In view of these considerations it is clear that the projected extension of the Dom Pedro II line is ill-advised and unwise.

The address of Barão do Rio Bonito at the coffee exhibition on the 30th ultimo, while it is filled with many practical suggestions and conclusions and is distinguished for what agriculturists like to call common sense, is nevertheless something disappointing. It is to be noted, however, that the report from which our abstract was taken, was neither faithful nor full; the speaker talked much more plainly and to the point than the *Jornal's* report gives him credit for. And yet, after all, what practical conclusions can we draw? Every body can see that the coffee-planting industry of Brazil has actually entered upon a crisis which end no one can foresee. Everyone can see that the competition of other and new producing countries has been rapidly increasing, that production

—The preliminary work on the surveys of the "Victoria a Natividade" railway, of Espírito Santo, were begun on the 26th ult.

—The September receipts of the Santo Antonio de Padua railway amounted to 32,383\$57, and the expenditures to 22,548\$222.

—It is announced that the Itararé de Ararauna railway directors are about to declare a reduction of 50 per cent. in their freight rates.

—The September receipts of the "Machete e Campos" railway amounted to 145,787\$8030. The freight traffic included 3,849 tons of coffee and 2,585 tons of sugar. The expenditures for the month are not published.

—The first general assembly of the stockholders of the S. Carlos do Mineral railway, São Paulo, was held at Rio Claro on the 31st ult. In addition to the presentation and acceptance of the regular reports the directors were authorized to prepare surveys and plans for the prolongation of the line to Araraquara, and for a branch to Brotas, Dons Corregos and Jahu.

—A general assembly of the Pernambuco railway company was held in this city on the 26th ult. The annual report for the year ending June 30th last shows that the total receipts were 363,666\$560, and the expenditures 254,865\$699, leaving a surplus of 108,200\$870. Deducting the office expenses in this city, this surplus is reduced to 84,619\$282. The sum of 60,000\$ was set apart for the 7th and 8th dividends.

—The corps of civil engineers entrusted with the surveys of the "Victoria a Natividade" railway, Espírito Santo, are composed of the following gentlemen: Messrs. Rowland Brotherhood, chief, Willem, Hamilton, Allanson, Culman, Angus and Morrow. Mr. Brotherhood has already spent some time in Brazil, being in charge of the drainage works of Pernambuco, and has had a wide experience in railway engineering in various parts of the world.

—The *Journal do Commercio* of to-day (Nov. 4) contains an important Editorial article upon railway tariffs which is worthy of careful perusal. As heretofore stated in the News, cases are given where mule trains are running alongside of the railways, and are competing with them successfully. The three principal instances given are the Baunidade line of Ceará, and the "Reefes a Limoeira" and "Reefes a S. Francisco" lines of Pernambuco. A railway system which is no better than the old mule pack trains will seem to practical men of very doubtful value. It is worthy of note, in this connection, that the late railway congress did not consider this question worth a resolution.

—The July and August receipts and expenditures of the Paulista railway were as follows:

	receipts	expenditures
July.....	161,926\$500	71,872\$490
August.....	204,664\$580	80,688\$630
	426,591\$080	152,561\$120
Surplus.....		274,029\$960

—From the report of the vice-director of the engineer department we learn that the movement of national railways (Argentine Republic) has been as follows: Comparing the gross traffic of the first six months of this year with last year we find that the *Compañía Railway* gave in 1881:

Gross returns (1881).....	\$6. 96,290 91
Do in (1882).....	158,379 71

Increase..... \$1. 62,088 80

Eastern Railway

Gross returns (1881).....	\$6. 86,153 13
Do (1882).....	100,551 63

Increase..... \$1. 14,398 50

Central Argentine

Gross return (1881).....	\$1. 190,694 14
Do (1882).....	726,251 03

Increase..... \$1. 535,556 89

The return made by the railways on account of guarantees corresponding to 1881 has been \$1 128,655.29, and that corresponding to the present year about \$1 251,503. The only line which has not made any return on this head is the Eastern Argentine which produced last year \$1 4,632.66, and this only 2,003 60. This line will continue to show a loss so long as it is not prolonged. At present it is only 10 kilometres in length, and the commercial movement of Gualeguay is not sufficient to give an increase in its revenue. — *Buenos Aires Herald*, Oct. 18.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

From the *Buenos Aires Standard*, October 14.

—The export of maize is approaching its close, owing to the reduced stock in the market and the great demand of home consumption. We calculate the export of this staple up to date at over 1,500,000 bags. Heavy shipments are yet being made, and may be continued till the end of the month, but the former activity in the grain has gone.

—Another grand meeting took place on Thursday night at the Scientific Society's rooms, when Dr. Netto, the distinguished Brazilian savant, read a paper on "evolution," and Mr. Moreno, the eminent Argentine explorer, another on "a new theory as to the origin of the South American man." Both papers were so marvellously long that we can not undertake to give even an idea of them, but they produced unanimous applause from all scientific and literary men present.

—Several of the principal streets of the city have been illuminated by electric light if the Brush system, and it is probable that a company will be formed for the purpose of street lighting by electricity. The electric light is also finding its way to the provinces and, we hear, is being used in several sugar factories of Tucuman and Santiago del Estero. The Edison is being put up again in this city, and the success of both systems is evident to the public.

—The ordinary sessions of the Argentine Congress closed on the 30th ult., but the President has issued prorogation decree for the discussion of several important bills. The Maletro ports scheme has been sanctioned. The National Bank bill has also passed with flying colors, and the first step towards a state bank has been made. The national government intends supplying the interior provinces of the republic with the capital necessary to develop the immense wealth of the nation. The provinces have only of late been gradually emerging from a languishing condition, and the increase in the capital of the so-called National Bank will bring about a complete transformation in the industrial prospects of all the provinces.

From the *Buenos Aires Herald*, October 16.

—An agricultural bank has been established in San Juan with a capital of \$600,000.

—It is calculated that the production of sugar in Tucuman in 1882 will not be under 1,200,000 arrobes, or a value of about \$12,500,000.

—A new mine of what is called *espider* of copper has been discovered close to the capital of Rioja. It appears to be a rich copper mine, giving according to analysis 82 per cent copper and 3½ per cent silver.

—The Argentine minister in Washington has received orders from his government to purchase 14 locomotive engines in the States for the Central Northern and Andine railways, to replace those lately sent out by Sr. Paz. To this end he is authorized to draw for \$40,000.

—The Bazaar held in aid of the building fund of the British Hospital, in this city, has resulted in the net profit to that fund of \$412,000 m/c, which handsome sum speaks in the most flattering terms for all the ladies and gentlemen of all nationalities who so generously contributed to its realization.

—From the *La Nación* we learn that the loan for \$100,000,000 for railway extension of the province of Buenos Aires has been placed at 90 per cent. It was taken up by the house of Morton, Rose & Co. of London free of all expense for the government. The loan was not to be launched until this month and Sr. Martinez, the commissioner, believes that it will be covered in a few days.

—From Montevideo, we learn of a serious conflict between the executive and the judiciary powers, which has already resulted in the resignation "en masse" of all the judges, and which may still rebound to the trouble and affliction of that sadly misgoverned country. It appears the government is unwilling to have any but its own creatures in public places.

—The budget for 1883, which has just been sanctioned, shows the following figures: disbursements \$1 29,468,000; available resources, \$1 29,500,000; leaving an apparent surplus of \$1 32,000, which, when we remember the numerous supplementary credits, and other unforeseen and unprovided-for expenses that have arisen of late, is very small indeed. This year's revenue up to the end of September, has amounted to \$1 16,544,000, which comes to exactly the proportion estimated for next year, without taking into consideration the fact that what remain of the year is, generally speaking, the busiest part.

—Since our last review for the packet, the second year of President Roca's administration has been completed, and though it is painfully evident that the regulation 30 per cent. must be deducted from his friend's brilliant anticipations with regard to the fruits of the same, we cannot say that, all things considered, his administration has come below the mark attained by any of his predecessors. It is true there never has been a period in which government has appeared to interfere so unvarnishedly as it now does in what legitimately is private business and ought to be left to the development of private means, but at the same time it should be remembered that the great undertakings now occupying public attention in this country are done so for the first time, and there is nothing in our past history to indicate that they would have been more justly or more ably dealt with by any previous administration.

—A Talca paper says that Mr. Recart has sold his concession for a railway from Talca to Constitución to an English company for £25,000.

From the *Buenos Aires Herald*, October 24.

—It is calculated that this country possesses 75,188,000 sheep.

—The amount of land planted with sugar cane in Tucuman is 7000 hectares—enough, if the season should prove favorable, to supply one half the republic.

—Congress continues in session, but is not deciding many of the important questions submitted to it, the extended session following the inefficient course of the ordinary session.

—The news that the shares of the Transandine railway of Mr. Clark had been subscribed for up to one million sterling has been confirmed.

—Such information as we can get indicates an average or above an average wool clip, but somewhat inferior in quality to that of last season. Shearing is just beginning, and a few small lots have found their way to market.

—In the Mint there are at the present moment coined the following amounts: Argentinos 600, Dollars 111,500, 50 cent pieces 81,000, 20 cents 421,000, 10 cents 505,000, 2 cents in copper 2,900 and 1 cent copper 41,000 or a total of \$1,163,000.

—On the 18th inst., at a meeting of merchants held in Cordoba, it was determined to fix the relative value of the Bolivian dollar to the national. This valuation was placed at 68 cents for the Bolivian dollar, being equal to 1 national dollar.

—A private society, under the name of "German Immigrant Protection Society," having been formed in this city, they have petitioned the national government for a small subvention in order to defray the expenses of a house or locality for the reception of the new arrivals, to which the government has replied, granting them \$1.45 per month.

—Immigration has fallen off greatly during the last year. The fact we state, leaving our readers to reason concerning the causes which give such a result. Agriculture is on the increase, and a great market is developing here for agricultural implements, in the introduction of which English houses take the lead most decidedly.

—The wharfage law, which goes into effect on Jan. 1st, is little better than a monstrous imposition on commerce. On every ton of coal the wharfage alone will amount to 78 cents per ton, and other charges are equally heavy. It would seem that it is his become a settled policy to throw all public burdens on those who are such fools as to share enterprise where it is not appreciated.

—The value of the lands of the Santa Fé colonies has risen from, in 1876, \$13,457,935 to \$17,683,639 in 1881, or a yearly increase of 45 per cent. The population of the same up till November 1881 was 54,809. They contained 12,608 houses, valued at \$14,992,560; 57,668 animals, valued at \$17,639,810; 30,573 agricultural machines, implements and vehicles, valued at \$14,902,430; or a total of values including the land, of \$125,209,439.

—The proposed society of Messrs. Manoel Ocampo, Samanes and Marcos Amar for establishing in the Ocampo colony, in the Chaco, a large sugar establishment, has been definitely formed. The machinery intended for the manufacture of the sugar has been bought in Europe and will arrive at Buenos Ayres early next year. Messrs. Ocampo believe that in a year after the cane has been planted they will be able to turn out 100,000 arrobes of sugar.

—The Bolsa has about finished with the disastrous settlements of September, and in a way which has created great dissatisfaction among responsible members. There was the heaviest and boldest cheating alleged against that month's business, and yet, the Bolsa management, far from seeking to them appear sufficient, allowed every one who failed to pay a small fraction of differences and to continue in good and regular standing.

LOCAL NOTES

—A heavy hail storm visited Iguazú, São Paulo, on the 16th ult.

—The formal closing of the General Assembly took place on the 28th ult.

—The October revenue receipts of the *recolectora* of this city amounted to 948,415\$098.

—It is expected that the regulations for the new patent law will be ready at an early date.

—The Polytechnic School has recently acquired the Halfield mineralogical collection, said to be very complete in Brazilian specimens.

—The president of São Paulo has rejected the proposal of Messrs. Florita & Tavolara for the introduction of 10,000 Italian families into that province.

—In view of the rejection of their new contract with the government by the Senate the Rio Gas Co. announces an increase in prices to the old tariff.

—The October receipts of the custom house of this city amounted to a total of 3,641,194\$440 of which 2,653,320\$446 were from imports and 987,423\$998 from exports.

—A fire broke out in the hold of the British bark *Canajoh*, on the 1st inst., in the coal with which she was freighted. The fire was extinguished with but little difficulty.

—From the returns now slowly coming in it is evident that Minister Padua Flery has won his reelection in the 1st district of Goyaz. This result, however, was a foregone conclusion.

—Imperial decree No. 8,610, of the 23rd of June last, authorizes the English Bank of Rio de Janeiro, Limited, to extend its operations to the provinces of Pará, Bahia and Rio Grande do Sul.

—The Emperor has chosen Counselor Francisco de Carvalho Soares Brandão, now president of the province of São Paulo, to fill the senatorial vacancy from the province of Pernambuco.

—The Brazilian consul-general to Paraguay, Sr. João Antonio Rodrigues Martins, has been transferred to the new consulate-general in China. The Paraguayan vacancy has been filled by the appointment of Sr. Pedro Ribeiro Almeida.

—The following transfers in the Brazilian diplomatic service have been announced: Barão de Aguiar de Antrada, from Lisbon to Rome; Dr. Caetano Maria de Paiva Lopes Gama, from Madrid to Lisbon. Dr. Alfredo Sergio Teixeira de Macedo is promoted to the Madrid embassy.

—The municipal engineer of the 3rd district has reported against the new bathing establishment on the Lapa praia on the ground of improper and flimsy construction, and as an obstruction to the free use of the beach by the public. We have still to learn who authorized the construction of this barrack.

—A fireman belonging to the Brazilian war steamer *Sete de Setembro* was killed by an Uruguayan officer at Montevideo on the evening of the 22nd ult. The crime grew out of a personal dispute. The rank of the officer is not stated, but it is surmised that he must have been nothing less than a major-general.

—The new "additional tax" of 10 per cent. on imports will go into effect on the 9th inst., the additional duties being levied as 60 instead of 50 per cent. on the schedule rates. The reduction of 2 per cent. in the export tax on coffee, sugar, cotton, and rice goes into effect at the same time, together with the increased warehouse charges.

—The *Globo* began a morning edition on the 2nd inst. The enterprise of the *Globo* certainly merits all success. The failure of the older journals to meet the necessities of the public and to keep pace with the growth of journalism, leaves an open field for an enterprising new-comer, and it is to be hoped that the *Globo* will fulfil all expectations in this respect.

—The *Diário da Gran Perla*, which reproduced the *Gazeta do Tarde's* imaginary account of the "Real Empress of Brazil," has been inundated with anxious inquiries about the continuation of the story, and about its truth. The good people of Pará are in as acute a state of irritation with the general government that they would undoubtedly be delighted to learn that this bit of journalistic fiction is nothing less than real history.

—We note in a late English exchange a review of a new work by J. J. Aubertin, the translator of *Os Lusíadas*, entitled "Seventy Sonnets of Camões." Mr. Aubertin's translation of *The Lusíadas* is so well known among English readers that this new translation of some of Camões' less known poems will require no introduction. Mr. Aubertin's many personal friends in Brazil will be glad to hear that the work begun here upon Camões' great epic has been continued upon his minor works.

—The new Royal Mail packet *La Plata*, which entered this port on the 30th ult., promises to be one of the favorites on this service, as she certainly is one of the best constructed and equipped. She was originally built for the Australian service, but was afterwards put on this line to take the place of the *Donna*. The *La Plata* is a steamer of 3240 tons, strongly and elegantly built, and is fitted with duplicate engines and shafts. Her upper works are models of elegance and comfort. The stateroom occupies the whole width of the deck, and is handsomely furnished and upholstered. A private saloon for ladies, elegantly furnished, occupies a part of the hurricane deck, which is a much needed improvement to steamship travel. In every respect the *La Plata* is a model vessel and can not fail to give the greatest satisfaction to the travelling public. On this initial voyage she is under the command of Captain A. C. Green, to whom, together with her purser, Mr. Frederick Groom, and her chief engineer, Mr. Prophet, we are indebted for many courtesies.

has considerably over-lapped consumption, and that prices have suffered a natural decline. And, furthermore, every good observer can not fail to see that these prices have actually fallen below the profit line in Brazilian production, and that the planter is not reducing the costs of production to meet the emergency. In view of the fact that Barão do Rio Bonito is widely known to be one of the foremost coffee planters in Brazil, it was reasonably expected that some practical remedy would be proposed for the ills afflicting this industry. He rendered good service, however, in pointing out some of the causes which have led to this result: high taxes, high transportation tariffs, the loss of credit and capital, and the labor difficulties caused by the emancipation law of 1871 and the scarcity of free labor. When, however, he pleads for the system now in vogue, and calls upon the government for aid, he certainly fails to meet the real exigencies of the question. It is not ignorance of the climate of Brazil—as inferred by Dr. Aveland—and supported by Barão do Rio Bonito—that carries the stream of foreign emigration past Brazilian doors to those of the Argentine Republic. It is nothing less than the knowledge that the immigrant stands no chance in this country for bettering his condition, and that the laws and usages are all against him. Explain it as we may, the unpleasant fact still remains that the curse of slavery has so tainted this land and its people that foreign emigration turns away from them unconsciously. Still was in the southern section of the United States in the days of slavery; so it is and must be here. The vice of slavery leads men to look upon manual labor as degrading, and upon all who engage in it as servile. The emigrant knows this, however poor and ignorant he may be. And then, too, the unhappy experiences in years just are perfectly well-known to emigrants, and they are little likely to follow in the footsteps of those who have suffered so much of hardship and indignity in the years past. It will be years before the English will attempt another Canada, or the Americans will reclaim their worthless campos in Paraná.

As to the question of government aid, a recourse upon which both Barão do Rio Bonito and his successor, Deputy Belisario, laid great stress—the agriculturists are pursuing a mere will-o'-the-wisp. An industry which can not live without government support, or artificial help, is better dead. When, however, this extraneous assistance is sought from an overburdened government whose revenue is derived from an overtaxed people, the case is one which is self-condemned. Barão do Rio Bonito complains that agriculturists are burdened with taxation, both on exports and imports; and then he asks for loan banks from the government for the aid of his class. If these credit facilities are to be afforded, it can only be done through the government's guarantee—and that means new responsibilities for a treasury for whose present support these taxes are levied. It ought to be perfectly clear to the Brazilian planter that the only way to reduce taxation is to reduce the operations and expenditures of the government. Just as long as the functions of government are made to embrace the execution and management of expensive railways, the guarantee of profits on others and upon all kinds of private enterprises, and the general supervision and relief of all sorts of weak-kneed industries, just so long will commerce and agriculture be overtaxed. Commerce is already burdened with taxes almost to the extreme of extinction; agriculture has thus far largely escaped, but her time is rapidly approaching. That

these two representative planters, who have just had the rare opportunity of a most favorable hearing, taken the stand of industrial independence and private initiative, they might have rendered an inestimable service. They should have counseled their colleagues to throw off this enervating dependence upon government. There is infinitely more to gain than there is to lose. If they have not capital and labor enough to carry on their present establishments, then let them cut down the establishments and work within their means. No system of business or of industrial development can warrant such a wholesale policy of working on borrowed capital. It would be fatal to any people, and especially to the agricultural classes where the profits are small and restricted to economical personal management. One of the great needs of this country is the system of small plantations worked by their own proprietors. The system of great estates and servile labor is one which is very rarely successful, and which never results to the advantage of the laboring classes. For these reasons—reasons of humanity as well as self-interest—this country should encourage no system which tends to build up a favored class at the expense of the masses. It is a subject not touched upon in the addresses before the Centro do Commercio e Lavoura, but it is an important one nevertheless.

We are glad to note that the president of the province of Rio de Janeiro, Desembargador Bernardo Avelino Gavião Peixoto, has vetoed the bill of the provincial assembly granting an interest guarantee to a central usine at Macahé. We have once before referred to the mistaken provisions of this measure, and gave our reasons for believing it to be mistaken and pernicious. It was proposed to grant a monopoly and a 6 per cent. guarantee on 600,000\$ to an enterprise, from which it was generally conceded the stockholders would receive from 12 to 20 per cent. a year. In exchange for these advantages the bill required the company to supply the city of Macahé with drinking water and light, in accordance with the requirements of the municipal authorities. The water supply was to be not less than 150 liters per inhabitant, and the public illumination was to be either with gas or electricity, to be determined by the municipal council. In vetoing this project President Gavião Peixoto calls attention to the fact that nine similar concessions for the province of Rio de Janeiro have already been granted by the general government, covering an aggregate capital of 5,600,000\$ and located for the most part in the eastern municipalities of the province. According to the bases established in these concessions the requirements on the projected Macahé usine are onerous. For an establishment with a capital of 500,000\$ the general government requires a grinding capacity of 20,000,000 kilogrammes in 100 days. In this project the capital is placed at 600,000\$ and the grinding capacity at 30,000,000 kilogrammes, or an increase over the general government requirements of one-third in the capacity to correspond with an increase of one-sixth in the capital. If to this the conditions of furnishing Macahé with water and light be added, President Gavião Peixoto believes that the concession will be nothing else than adding another burden to the province. The water supply of Macahé has already been estimated to cost 186,000\$, and the costs of public illumination have not yet been determined. The public burdens being already very heavy, and the increase in revenue being light, the president of the province very wisely concludes that it would be an error to assume any further burdens at this time. It is to be regretted, in this

connection, that President Gavião Peixoto did go not further into the question, and lose his veto on a question of principle. He should have stamped out this pernicious policy of shifting public improvements and burdens of this character upon private parties, in exchange for the concession of a privileged monopoly. Both practices are essentially and radically wrong. If a city needs water and light, then let its inhabitants pay for them. To require a private corporation to supply them, in exchange for some desired monopoly, is simply an outrage. There is not one single feature in the whole project that is not wrong. If the president of Rio de Janeiro had taken advantage of the occasion to read the provincial assembly a much needed lecture on the rudiments of political economy, he would have rendered an important public service in addition to that covered by his veto.

THE NECESSITIES OF AGRICULTURE.

The first address in the series of conferences in connection with the coffee exhibition at the Typographia Nacional, was held on the evening of the 30th ult., the speaker being the Barão do Rio Bonito, one of the most prominent and successful planters in Brazil. His address was upon the "necessities of agriculture," and may be accepted as a fair statement of the views of the real planting class. We say *real*, because those planters whose whole life is spent in politics and cities can not justly be considered as fair types of agriculturists, and are not therefore competent to express the views of those whose lives are chiefly spent upon their plantations. The remarks of the speaker, as freely translated from the *Jornal's* report, were as follows:

The orator, painted in the liveliest colors the feeling of doubt and discouragement felt by the planters from whom much has been asked, to whom much has been promised, who have been made to bear the maximum of contributions notwithstanding that nothing has been granted them. For the sake of the emancipation question the planter has been treated as if he was a being outside the Brazilian communion. The sentiment of emancipation, however, does not belong exclusively to any one class. The planter also has it. His question is in regard to the mode of resolving the problem. The emancipation propaganda has frightened capital from agriculture so that it lacks the means of progressing. It is a mistake to say that there is a lack of capital; what is lacking is the means of mobilizing the capital possessed by the planting class, the richest in the country, for the development of agriculture and of public wealth.

Referring to the question of colonization, the orator cited the opinion of Dr. Aveland to the effect that the current of colonization depends on the diffusion of knowledge. In Europe, in regard to the climatic conditions of the country. This propaganda should be done by the executive power through its diplomatic and consular agents, and through the press. Spontaneous immigration passes Brazil and goes to the Argentine Republic because there money has been spent to attract it and the propaganda has been established. Everything respecting the emigrant to the Argentine Republic is known in Europe. Brazil has spent uselessly hundreds of contos for colonization. One difficulty is the lack of a law of labor contracts (*leição de serviços*) to guarantee bilateral contracts. The contracts made by official agents have been of no benefit to the planters. The orator has seen more than six hundred of these contracts in which shoemakers, tailors, etc., have been contracted for plantation service.

As regards the substitution of slave labor, the orator confides in and is guided by the law of the 28th of September. The loyalty with which the planters have complied with this law is well known. They have gone beyond the law and, in the large number of liberations granted, the planters have, at their own cost, done more than all the emancipation associations. Moreover, the mortality among the free children on

the plantations is less than in the cities of Europe. Notwithstanding these facts, accusations are still brought against the planter in regard to the servile element. The question of emancipation presents difficulties to the planter because he sees, as was foreseen 16 years ago, that he is without means of mobilizing his capital, and is without credit because the emancipation propaganda has contributed to this result. He sees daily, however, the volcano over which he is placed. The transformation of labor might perhaps be made in such a way as to reduce the planters to the position of the English landholders. They would not be the only ones to suffer in this case, but the state and every one in the empire would suffer also.

The budget just voted, while it diminishes the unreasonable export duties by 2 per cent. in favor of agriculture, adds 10 per cent. to the import duties, which also falls upon agriculture. The protests of the *Centro de Lavoura e do Comercio* were either disregarded, or only attended to in a very small part. What agriculture needs, is money. It is thought that it begs alms, while what it needs is the representative of its own value. To obtain this, it must give the greatest possible guarantee for redemption. We attempted to reform the mortgage law, but the Senate in its wisdom rejected the project. What we asked was to be able to make an anticipated sale of our products. These mortgage titles would be a true paper money; capital now withheld would seek them because coffee is the gold of Brazil. The state had every thing to gain with this, and it has not yet been estimated how many thousand of contos such an emission would amount to. This project, however, was not only rejected, but it was made impossible for the planters to move. The efforts to establish banks through the law of 1875 have been fruitless. Agricultural values being depreciated and the planters unable to move to obtain money, they are handicuffed. They are tied to a post, and then ordered to march.

The planter has been reproached because he does not adopt localized cultivation, because he devastates the forests, because he does not import colonists. Coffee must be planted in good soil, and localized cultivation costs many times the value of the soil. If it is followed in some parts of Europe, there are others where it is not. It requires laborers which Brazil does not possess; and while it may be adopted in some provinces time will be required for its introduction into that of Rio de Janeiro.

Even if these great enterprises were possible, where is the money to come from with which to realize them. The planter lacks money, lacks credit, and there are no banks prepared to advance him money for a long term with the exception of the Bank of Brazil which is hampered by law and has too small a capital to meet the wants of the four nearest provinces. The aids promised eighteen years ago are still withheld. The planter is asked to work harder, to condemn himself to isolation, and to keep away from the city in order not to spend money. In the defense of his colleagues the orator protests against this insinuation. Not 80 per cent. of the planters of Rio de Janeiro know the city, or spend more time there than is absolutely necessary. The Paulista planters live differently; they frequent the centres of population and this is perhaps the reason of the greater progress of that center of Brazilian activity. It is desirable that the planters should know each other better, that they should unite in clubs and associations to treat of their mutual interests.

The legislature grants thousands of contos in guarantees to railroads, without a proper calculation of what they can produce. Hence the freights are excessive and weigh fatally on the planters. On top of all these evils came the fall in the price of coffee. This is not a sign of death for the coffee industry, but it is an evil that will not be immediately remedied. The whole question reduces itself to being able to produce cheaply.

The second address was given on the 1st instant by Dr. Francisco Belisario, a deputy in the General Assembly, and a planter in the province of Minas Geraes, and dealt with the present state of coffee cultivation. Unlike his predecessor the speaker is one of those who know more of politics than of the vital necessities of agriculture, hence his exposition lacks those practical features

which the subject suggests. The main points of his address, as taken from the *Gazete de Noticias*, were as follows:

The lecturer began by saying that a few days ago he had seen a leading article in a newspaper of this province, which, under another heading, discussed the same subject as this conference.

After describing the position of coffee planting, this paper, in view of the competition which is developing around coffee, and of its consumption being so much below production, advised the planters to abandon this product, unless they wished to see their property seized upon by their creditors.

Well, this opinion was the reflex of the opinion of a paper published in this capital. But, I would ask, have things already reached this pass? Can such advice be followed?

In Brazil the coffee plantations represent the most important national property, and if once they are abandoned it will be impossible to re-establish them in their primitive state except at almost insupportable difficulty and enormous expense.

The crisis produced by the decline in the value of coffee has become all the more serious on account of the planters already being face to face with the land and labor questions. Whence came this crisis? It came from the excess of production, as has happened in other countries, with the difference that the increased production of Brazil arose from another cause.

When the law of the 28th September was voted, the planters saw that the state of things which had existed up to then could last no longer, and therefore, among other expedients to which they resorted they opened up new zones for their plantations. As a natural result it is evident that production must increase extraordinarily, for the plantations were laid out in virgin soil.

Still other reasons came to increase that progress, one of the principal and most recent being the absence of frost in S. Paulo and the Parahyba zone, the absence of drought, and the resources employed to kill the animals which injured the plantations.

Elsewhere I have already urged the government to assist the planters at this trying time. The result of my efforts is known, and I will pass into other topics.

Recalling the crisis which sugar planting underwent some years ago, and the remedies then suggested, such as labor-saving machinery, I would ask: Can the same remarks be applied to coffee? The method of cultivating coffee in Brazil has been imposed by the fatality of circumstances; not being able to augment its yield, coffee has therefore sprung from the virgin soil.

I cannot agree with an illustrious Brazilian, who has pronounced against the destruction of the forests, and criticised the means employed by the planters to reap the greatest results in their labors. In his opinion the time has come for the planters to study the best means of exchanging extended for restricted cultivation, giving, in connection with this subject, important consideration to the question of letting the soil lie fallow. This is a most important point, for it relates to the value of property in which enormous capital has been invested, and which after some time does not represent the value it ought to amount of the exhaustion of the soil.

After some remarks about the use of fertilizers, on land and for crops, which, harvested in five weeks in Ceylon, require six months to harvest in Brazil on account of the difficulty of the work, entailing an apprenticeship of at least two years, the lecturer proceeded to say that the question of pruning was of no slight importance to the coffee planter, because very often the leading shoots were removed in the pruning, which was a source of incalculable loss.

He discussed at some length and praised the high standard reached by Brazil in the methods of preparing coffee for market, and pronounced against the use of coloring matters by the planters. Referring to transport charges, he asserted that the bag of coffee which can be shipped hence to the United States for 800 reis by steamer and between 400 and 800 reis by sailing vessel, costs the planter 25500 to send by rail from Porto Novo station to Rio de Janeiro (a distance of 261 kilometers).

The lecturer, after dealing with the subject of taxation which so weighs down the agricultural classes, concluded by a reference to the question of slavery, and recommended those interested not to be alarmed at the emancipation propaganda.

The third lecture of the course was delivered last evening [3rd] by Dr. Honorio Ribeiro upon the question of differential transportation charges as a means of protecting agriculture. The lack of time prevents our giving an abstract of this discussion in this issue. The fourth address of the course will be given on the 6th instant by Sr. Ramalho Ortigão upon the question of loan banks.

THE COMET.

Upon receiving the letter of Prof. B. A. Gould regarding the comet—which we published in our last issue—the Argentine minister of education, Dr. Wilde, felt such a curiosity about the new planetary visitor that he at once sent a telegraph dispatch to the director of the Observatory at Corboba asking for detailed information. The telegram served two purposes: the one of exposing how little a minister can know about such things; the other, how little is really known of these eccentric visitors, and how clearly and pleasantly a scientific man can make that fact known. The Buenos Aires *Standard*, from whose columns we take the two telegraph dispatches, treats the matter very severely, and as through the Argentine minister had no business to be so ignorant. Our colleague should always be patient with ministers. The telegrams were as follows:

To Dr. Gould,
Corboba.

(Confidential). I have perused your interesting note about the comet, but my curiosity is by no means satisfied. I want to know where this comet comes from, where it is bound for, and how it employs its time; what on earth it means by flouncing first in front of the sun and then behind it, and why it plays such tricks before high heaven, as no comet that I know of has ever done before. Wire an answer.

E. Wilde.

Corboba, Oct. 3rd

To H. E. the Minister of Public Instruction,
Your Excellency has cleverly managed in putting me the very questions I am unable to answer. As a rule, the period of a comet can not be known, except by identifying its orbit with that of another comet seen in past years.

There are exceptional cases in which the period being short, and the comet remaining visible for a long series of observations, to discover the form of its ellipse more or less exactly, as also the duration of the period. This was done with the comet of 1812, and its period was found to be a little over 70 years.

Our comet has appeared unexpectedly, returning to the sun after an absence of, who knows, hundreds or thousands of years. During these years it has visited the most remote regions, without being able to escape from the attraction of the sun, which has finally forced it to return so close to it that it (the comet) has acquired a light of its own in addition to that which it reflects from the sun.

It has also acquired such an enormous velocity that, on reaching the sun, its impetus exceeded the force of gravitation so much that it passed its perihelion, revolving round the sun, like a stone in a sling. In going round the sun, it was on the same plane as the earth and the sun, which made it appear as having passed before the solar disc and then returned from behind it.

It has passed very close to the solar body and is now returning to the regions from whence it came. Our last determinations of the orbit must be very near the truth, and they show some similarity between this comet and that which came in February 1880. I think that they are two fragments which parted company previous to the formation of the earth.

B. A. Gould

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—Isolated cases of small-pox are still appearing in São Paulo.

—Benevente, province of Espírito Santo, reports an outbreak of small-pox.

—The composer Carlos Gomes left Pernambuco for Europe on the 18th ult.

—Small-pox has broken out at Victoria, the capital of Espírito Santo.

—The municipality of Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, possesses a slave population of 6,068 persons.

—It is reported from Campinas that the Ferri opera company is to visit that city after its season at São Paulo.

—The Santos custom house collected 765,067\$590 during the past month.

—The price of fresh beef at the capital of the province of Amazonas for some time past has been \$5000 per kilo.

—The president of Rio de Janeiro has authorized the municipal council of Campos to make necessary expenditure for the relief of those stricken with small-pox.

—The *Mitra*, of Victoria, Espírito Santo, is complaining of the charges imposed by a parish priest of that city. Among the charges imposed is \$3000 for every baptism.

—An examination of the ground at Cape St. Augustine, near Pernambuco, has recently been made to determine the locality for the new light house to be erected there.

—The *Iguape*, of Iguape, São Paulo, states that the hailstorm which visited that locality on the 16th ult., according to the superstitious people there, was occasioned by the comet.

—Forty-five colonists from the Canary Islands arrived at São Paulo the other day, en route to the plantation of Barão do Pinal, with whom they were under contract. They now refuse to proceed to their destination.

—The São Paulo municipal council has arranged with the fire company and the water works company for the sprinkling of the streets of that city. The Brazilian fireman is rapidly losing his identity in that of the waterman.

—Indian incursions are reported from several localities in the province of Mato Grosso. A band of 500 savages have made their appearance near the village of Diamantino, and have killed many settlers in that vicinity.

—The president of Rio de Janeiro has voted two concessions for central usines with provincial guarantees. One of these is the Macaé project granting a guarantee of 6 per cent. on 600,000\$, and the other the Cantagallo project granting 7 per cent. on a capital of 400,000\$.

—A man named Rique Agostinho de Brito was killed by his wife with a pistol at a small settlement, called Graça, São Paulo, on the 24th ult. After committing the deed the woman tried to burn the body in order to destroy all traces of the crime. At last accounts, she had not been arrested.

—The grateful merchants of Pernambuco are subscribing large sums for a suitable present to Deputy José Mariano as a testimonial of their appreciation of his services in parliament in securing the abolition of provincial import duties. It is proposed to raise 60,000\$ for the purchase of a residence for him in that city.

—A slave revolt occurred on the plantation of Sr. Luiz de Pimtes, Campinas, São Paulo, on the night of the 1st inst. There were 70 slaves in the insurrection. They drove the proprietor and a party of armed men off the premises, and then in solemnly left the place. They were well armed, and showed their purpose by giving *bras* for "Emancipation" the "republic," etc. Full particulars have not been received, but it is known that there were several persons killed and wounded.

—The *Graciosa* of Mogy das Cruzes, São Paulo, relates that a poor traveler recently arrived at Itaquaquecetuba and begged hospitality from a resident of the place for the night. This was readily granted. He then invited his host to join him in a little refreshment, producing a small flask for that purpose. This was also accepted. The result was that the host fell into a heavy sleep which lasted some twenty-four hours, and his guest went on his way rejoicing with the contents of his host's pockets.

—The benefits of a government telegraph service were practically exemplified at São Paulo the other day. A mercantile house had occasion to send a dispatch of 87 words, excluding the address, to Rio and went to the office of the government line to find out what it would cost. The charge was 16\$50, what it would cost. The merchant then entered a street car and went out to the Norte station where the railway people sent the message for 5\$00. Including the street car fares of 400 reis, the amount saved by this transaction was 11\$100.

—The *Iniciador*, of Corumbá, Mato Grosso, of the 24th September, relates the following: The Brazilian consular-general in Bolivia, Sr. José Corréa da Silva, having obtained a six months' leave of absence to visit his family in Montevideo, set out across country for Corumbá on the 7th of August.

On the 7th of September he arrived at a place called Porerito, where he halted for rest. Soon after the halt the Indians set fire to the forest all around him with the purpose of cutting off every avenue of escape. A strong wind was blowing the fire down upon the camp with great rapidity, even before it was discovered. The animals nearly escaped in their flight, but Sr. Silva and his party succeeded finally in catching them and making their escape. They had neither time to dress nor to secure their baggage; everything was lost. Sr. Silva lost a considerable sum of money, a part of which had been entrusted to him for other parties.

—Indian incursions are reported from the Rio Negro, province of Amazonas.

—The steamer *Glimax* arrived at Pará on the 14th ult., en route to Rio de Janeiro.

—The postoffice service at Manaus, Amazonas, has given rise lately to many complaints.

—The *Provincia*, of São Paulo, notes a report that the ruins of a large city have been discovered on the Rio Paranaipannema.

—A severe hailstorm visited the districts of Mar de Hespanha and Santa Barbara, Minas Geraes, on the 12th ult. causing great damage to the coffee plantations.

—The September receipts of the Manaus custom house, province of Amazonas, amounted to 92,816\$510, and that of the provincial *recedoria* to 143,158\$913, in which the 3% "additional" for the Amazon Navigation Co. contributed the sum of 37,717\$041.

—The municipal council of Pará has been instrumental in emancipating a total of 206 slaves, valued at 126,500\$. The slaves contributed \$3,679\$ from their own savings, the balance being made up of 43,340\$211 received from the provincial treasury as the product of a special tax, and 27,480\$789 from a municipal market tax.

—An extraordinary session of the Ceará provincial assembly has been called for the 27th inst. The session recently closed produced oratory enough for all purposes, but unfortunately no necessary laws were passed. The extraordinary session is called to pass the provincial budget for the current year.

—The Pernambuco subscription for a testimonial to Deputy José Mariano for his services in securing the repeal of the provincial import duties, amounted to 39,600\$. A residence on Rua do Imperador was purchased with this sum, which it is designed to present to Deputy Mariano at the first favorable opportunity.

—An attempt was made to destroy the enrolment for military service at Alenas, Minas Geraes, on the 9th and 11th ult. A band of armed men entered the town on both days with the purpose of breaking up the enrolment, and destroying the records, but were defeated by the prompt assistance accorded by the citizens of the place.

—An assassination took place on a plantation Monte Verde parish, near S. Filipe, Rio de Janeiro, on the 19th ult., a planter named Joaquim José Gonçalves Guimarães being killed by one of his own slaves. Guimarães had whipped the slave the day previous, and had then sent him out to the fields to work. On the 19th he visited the plantation, and was attacked by the slave with a bush hook and knife. The assassin was captured.

PARANÁ EXPORT OF MAIZE.

The September exportation of maize (Paraguay tea) from the province of Paraná was as follows:

	1882	1881
To Montevideo..... kilos.	255,044	513,911
Buenos Aires.....	488,511	616,081
Valparaiso.....	236,323	167,110

For the nine months ending September 30th, the exports were as follows, in comparison with those for the same period of last year:

	1882	1881
To Montevideo..... kilos.	2,668,680	1,856,605
Buenos Aires.....	4,855,247	5,223,953
Valparaiso.....	3,261,849	1,515,493
	10,785,776	8,586,021
Increase over 1881.....	2,199,755	

RAILROAD NOTES

—Another section of the "Jacarépana e Caxatuba" tramway took place on the 25th ult.

—The formal inauguration of the Bahia and Minas railway, on the part now completed, will take place on the 9th inst.

—By a decree of the 7th ult. the government conceals a guarantee of 5 in 6 per cent. to the projected railway of the province of Sergipe.

—The September receipts of the "Recife ao S. Francisco" railway, Pernambuco, amounted to 49,573\$550, and the expenditures to 39,058\$992, leaving a surplus of 10,514\$558.

—By a decree of the 7th ult. the government grants a concession to the "Bahia e S. Francisco" for a branch from Alagoas to Tijuá, Bahia, with a guarantee of 6 per cent. per annum.

—It is announced that regular traffic will soon be opened over the Rio do Ouro tramway line, which was built for the transportation of supplies for the new water works of this city.

—The September receipts of the "Recife ao Lameiro" railway, Pernambuco, amounted to 15,249\$330, and the expenditures to 21,028\$220, leaving a deficit of 5,778\$890.

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Orléans	" 25th
Paris	" 30th

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